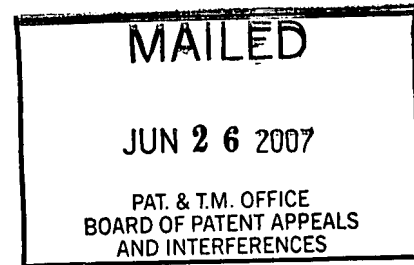


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES



Ex parte NORMAN YAMAMOTO and ADAM G. BRATTER

Application No. 09/921,734

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on June 26, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.

A review of the application indicates that the Evidence Appendix and Related Proceedings Appendix sections are missing from the appeal brief filed September 1, 2005. Therefore, the appeal brief does not fully comply with all the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c).

37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c) states:

(c)(1) The brief shall contain the following items under appropriate headings and in the order indicated in paragraphs (c)(1)(I) through (c)(1)(x) of this section, except that a brief filed by an appellant who is not represented by a registered practitioner need only substantially comply with paragraphs (c)(1)(I) through (c)(1)(iv) and (c)(1)(vii) through (c)(1)(x) of this section:

(ix) *Evidence appendix.* An appendix containing copies of any evidence submitted pursuant to §§ 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 of this title or of any other evidence entered by the examiner and relied upon by appellant in the appeal, along with a statement setting forth where in the record that evidence was entered in the record by the examiner. Reference to unentered evidence is not permitted in the brief. See § 41.33 for treatment of evidence submitted after appeal. This appendix may also include copies of the evidence relied upon by the examiner as to grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal.

(x) *Related proceedings appendix.* An appendix containing copies of decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section.

MPEP § 1205.03 states in part:

The examiner should not require a corrected brief for minor non-compliance in an appeal brief (e.g., the brief has a minor error in the title of a section heading). The following are a few other examples where the examiner may accept a brief that has minor noncompliance:

(A) If the evidence appendix and related proceedings appendix are missing, but the record is clear that there is no evidence submitted and no related proceedings listed in the related appeals and interferences section, the examiner may accept

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the brief and state in the examiner's answer that it is assumed that the appellant meant to include both appendixes with a statement of "NONE."


Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner to:

1) determine whether Appellant needs to file a new appeal brief or whether the Examiner can accept the brief as is and note in a PTOL-90 that it is assumed that the appellant meant to include both appendixes with a statement of "NONE."; and,

2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

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PJN/lbg